2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION SPRING EDITION | MARCH 2022



Pictured: The Maine State House in Augusta, ME (source)

DID YOU KNOW?

The great copper statue that crowns the Maine State House was designed, executed and given to the State of Maine by William Clark Noble in 1909. Frequently mistaken for Athena, the Greek Goddess of Wisdom, or Minerva, the Italian goddess of Arts and Crafts, the sculptor designed the "Lady of Wisdom" himself based on his conception of the city (Augusta) holding a pine torch (the State).

- Based on a 10" sketch, William Clark Noble sculpted the 12 foot high figure (15 feet to the torch) out of copper, brazing together pieces with silver solder before the statue was gilded and mounted to the State House.
- The Maine State House was completed in 1832, with remodels in 1852, 1860, and again in 1909-1910 when the Lady of Wisdom statue was added. The total cost of the 1909-1910 remodels was \$350,000.
- In 1991, a local sleuth with a metal detector discovered a possible time capsule in the State House building. The decision was made to let the capsule rest until a more momentous occasion or future anniversary.
- In 2014, the State House dome was replaced for the first time since 1909-1920. The project also included re-gilding the Lady of Wisdom. The dome shined like a penny for a short time before turning brown, and will not turn green again for about 30 years.



The State House from an engraving in the November 19, 1853 issue of Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Campanion.

Sources: https://legislature.maine.gov/general/history-of-the-state-house/9137 and https://www.maine.gov/legis/general/lady/lady2.htm



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2022 LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

CONNECTICUT

 Connecticut legislators are considering <u>S.B. 250</u>, which would establish a student loan reimbursement program for Connecticut residents who graduated from a state university. The bill is currently in committee.

MAINE

- Maine legislators have introduced <u>H. 1353</u>, which would strengthen the governance of the Maine community college and university systems.
- <u>S. 1978</u>, currently in committee, would provide one-time funds for mortgages and student debt forgiveness for first-time home buyers with existing student loan debt through a program of the Maine State Housing Authority.

MASSACHUSETTS

- Massachusetts legislators overrode Governor Baker's veto to pass <u>Chapter 75</u>, which establishes a
 task force on higher education affordability. The task force will be co-chaired by the Commissioner of
 Higher Education or a designee, the Secretary of Labor or Workforce Development or a designee,
 the chairs of the Joint Committee on Higher Education, and several others, including current
 students.
- The House is consider H.B. 266, which

NEW HAMPSHIRE

- Lawmakers resumed in-person activities this January after several years of remote work during the COVID pandemic.
- <u>H.B. 1218</u> creates a merger between Granite State College and the University of New Hampshire. It is currently in committee, but if successful, would reshape New Hampshire's postsecondary landscape.
- HB 319 passed in both chambers and was recently vetoed by Governor Sununu. The bill would have required all students in New Hampshire's university and community college system to pass a United States Citizenship and Immigration Services Civics Naturalization test as a requirement for graduation.

RHODE ISLAND

- The Assembly made permanent the <u>Rhode Island Promise program</u> in May 2021, which provides up to two years of free tuition for eligible Rhode Islanders at Community College of Rhode Island.
- Governor McKee announced in his <u>State of the State Address</u> that Rhode Island will launch its first ever Higher Ed Academy, a statewide effort to provide access to education and training that leads to a good-paying job. This initiative, which will be run by the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, will support 1,000+ Rhode Islanders to gain the skills necessary to obtain a credential or degree.

VERMONT

- Governor Phil Scott aims to dedicate more federal ARPA funds to economic development, workforce training, and Career and Technical Education to address the state's worker shortage. He plans to add \$1 million to the State's internship program and \$1 million to VSAC's Advancement Grants.
- <u>H.122</u> establishes the Vermont Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund. The act repeals the Pre-Kindergarten-16 Council and transfers a portion of the council's duties to the Vermont Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund.
- <u>S. 62</u> directs the Agency of Commerce and Community Development to design and implement a program to provide incentives to new and relocating employees, allocates funds for Career and Technical Education, and expands unemployment benefits for Vermonters.



Legislative Advisory Committee Members

Co-chairs in red

CONNECTICUT

Sen. Mae Flexer*

Deputy President Pro Tempore & Federal Relations Liaison

Chair: Government Administration and Elections

Vice Chair: Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Member: Appropriations; Education; Judiciary

Sen. Will Haskell

Deputy President Pro Tempore

Chair: Transportation

Vice Chair: Government Administration and Elections

Member: Energy and Technology; Environment; Judiciary; Public Health; Higher Education

and Employment Advancement

Sen. James Maroney

Deputy Majority Leader

Chair: General Law; Regulations Review

Vice Chair: Veterans' Affairs

Member: Finance, Revenue & Bonding; Higher Education & Employment Advancement;

Insurance and Real Estate

Rep. Gary Turco

Vice Chair: Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Member: Appropriations; Veterans' Affairs

Rep. Gregory Haddad*

Chair: Higher Education Subcommittee

Member: Appropriations; Government Administration and Elections; Higher Education and

Employment Advancement

MAINE

Rep. Rebecca Millett*

Member: Education and Cultural Affairs; Leaves of Absence

Sen. Lisa Keim

Member: Government Oversight; Judiciary

Sen. Matthea (Mattie) Daughtry*

Chair: Labor and Housing

Member: Education and Cultural Affairs; Senatorial Vote

Sen. Marianne Moore

Member: Health and Human Services Committee

MASSACHUSETTS

Sen. Marc R. Pacheco*

Chair: State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Vice Chair: Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy

Member: Global Warming and Climate Change; Higher Education; Export Development;

Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets

Sen. Anne Gobi

Chair: Joint Committee on Higher Education

Vice Chair: Senate Committee on Redistricting; Special Joint Committee on Redistricting Member: Ways and Means; Community Development and Small Businesses; Elder Affairs;

Veterans and Federal Affairs

Sen. Michael Moore

Chair: Post Audit and Oversight Vice Chair: Financial Services

Member: Intergovernmental Affairs; Ways and Means; Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture; Public Safety and Homeland Security; Joint Committee on Ways and Means

MASSACHUSETTS (CONT.)

Rep. Pat Haddad*

Vice Chair: Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets

Member: Export Development

Rep. Sean Garballey

Chair: Global Warming and Climate Change

Member: Higher Education

Rep. Jeffrey Roy

Chair: Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy

Rep. Dave Rogers

Chair: Higher Education

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Sen. David Watters*

Vice Chair: Transportation

Member: Capital Budget; Energy and Natural Resources

Sen. Jay Kahn

Member: Education; Judiciary

Rep. Rick Ladd
Chair: Education
Sen. Ruth Ward
Chair: Education

Member: Election Law and Municipal Affairs; Transportation

Rep. Glenn Cordelli Vice Chair: Education

RHODE ISLAND

Sen. Lou DiPalma*

Chair: Rules, Government, Ethics, and Oversight

First Vice Chairman: Finance

Member: Education Sen. Hanna M. Gallo*

Senate President Pro Tempore

Vice Chair: Education

Member: Housing and Municipal Government; Commerce

Rep. Gregg Amore*

Deputy Majority Leader

Chair: Finance Subcommittee on Education

Second Vice Chair: Education

Member: Finance; Innovation, Internet, and Technology

Rep. William W. O'Brien

Deputy Majority Leader

First Vice Chair: Corporations; Rules

Second Vice Chair: Environment and Natural Resources

Member: Finance Rep. June Speakman*

Second Vice Chair: Municipal Government and Housing

Member: House Health and Human Services; Environment and Natural Resources; Oversight

VERMONT

Sen. Andrew Perchlik*

Vice Chair: Transportation

Clerk: Education

Member: Reapportionment; Sexual Harassment Panel, Workgroup on Lessons Learned;

Government Accountability

Rep. Peter Conlon

Ranking Member: Education

Member: Canvassing Rep. Kathleen James* Clerk: Education Member: Canvassing

CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Current Status: The Connecticut State Legislature convened its 2022 session on February 9, 2022 and will adjourn on May 4, 2022.

Governor Lamont's February 9, 2022 State of the State Address.

Governor Lamont began his address by acknowledging the fact that the speech was convening in person for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began. He acknowledged that despite the fact that the pandemic has been raging, the state of Connecticut is still in a better place than it was three years ago when he took over the Gubernatorial duties. Before Governor Lamont took office, Connecticut was facing a \$3.7 billion budget deficit, and Lamont has seen three years of budget surpluses.

Lamont explained that he has been an advocate for providing tax cuts to lower class and middle class families since taking office in 2019. Lamont highlighted that "holding the line" against tax increases has subsequently lowered or held steady the costs of things like healthcare, childcare and postsecondary education. Lamont spoke about the availability of jobs in Connecticut's workforce at the moment, and the specific focus the state of Connecticut puts on training students and the workforce utilizing things like trade schools, apprentice programs and internships to grant industry-recognized credentials. Other highlights of the Governor's address included the administration's emphasis on clean energy, infrastructure investment and access to technology and wifi as well as protecting children, safeguarding the community from COVID-19, and encouraging women specifically to rejoin the workforce.

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	AN ACT CONCERNING VOTING RIGHTS FOR FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
<u>HB. 5031</u>	Summary: To change the role of the faculty members on the Board of Regents for Higher Education from nonvoting members to voting members.
	Status: Pending- HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT
	Date of Last Action: 2/9/2022

	AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM CONSIDERING LEGACY PREFERENCES IN THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS
HB. 5034	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
	Summary: Prohibits an institution of higher education from considering legacy preferences in the admissions process.
	Status: Pending - Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
HB. 5033	AN ACT ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF FOOD-INSECURE STUDENTS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist. Rep. Dorinda Borer, 115th Dist.Rep. Juan R. Candelaria, 95th Dist. Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist. Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist. Rep. Peter A. Tercyak, 26th Dist.Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.
	Summary: To require public institutions of higher education to assess and address food insecurity among students and to increase access to the supplemental nutrition assistance program by eligible students at institutions of higher education.
	Status: Pending - HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR ADJUNCT FACULTY
<u>HB. 5030</u>	Sponsor(s): Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist.Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist.
	Summary: To require the Labor Department to consider specific

	circumstances when determining whether an individual who performs instructional, research or principal administrative duties at an institution of higher education is eligible to receive unemployment compensation.
	Status: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Stephanie Thomas, 143rd Dist. Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist.
HB. 5032	Summary: To add two student members to the Board of Trustees of The University of Connecticut.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 2/9/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING IN-STATE TUITION FOR VETERANS AND ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS
<u>HB. 5035</u>	Sponsor(s): Rep. Kurt Vail, 52nd Dist.Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist. Rep. Bill Buckbee, 67th Dist. Rep. Dorinda Borer, 115th Dist. Rep. Tom Delnicki, 14th Dist.Rep. Kara Rochelle, 104th Dist. Rep. Terrie E. Wood, 141st Dist.Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist. Rep. Tony J Scott, 112th Dist.
	Summary: To provide in-state tuition to veterans and certain eligible dependents living in Connecticut regardless of their legal domicile.
	Status: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
<u>HB. 5075</u>	AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

	Sponsor(s): Rep. Juan R. Candelaria, 95th Dist.
	Summary: To provide suicide prevention training and workshops for behavioral health providers, school employees, faculty members at institutions of higher education, students, community members and their families.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations
	Date of Last Action: 2/15/2022
HB. 5081	AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE ROBERTA B. WILLIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Jason Doucette, 13th Dist. Rep. Gary A. Turco, 27th Dist. Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist.Rep. Anthony L. Nolan, 39th Dist.
	Summary: To restore funding to the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program to previous funding levels and to provide more need-based financial aid to Connecticut students.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Appropriations
	Date of Last Action: 2/15/2022
HB. 5113	AN ACT REQUIRING THE COMPTROLLER TO FUND THE UNFUNDED PENSION LIABILITY PORTION OF THE FRINGE BENEFIT COSTS FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CONSTITUENT UNITS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Gregory Haddad, 54th Dist.
	Summary: To alleviate the cost shift from all taxpayers to students and clinical patients through tuition, fees and medical bills.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 2/15/2022

HB. 5115	AN ACT REQUIRING A PLAN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF CHILD CARE CENTERS ON OR NEAR EACH CAMPUS OF THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES Sponsor(s): Rep. Jason Rojas, 9th Dist.Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist. Summary: To develop a plan to increase the number of child care centers on or near each campus of the regional community-technical colleges or the state universities.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PERSONAL INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR STUDENT LOAN INTEREST
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Brandon Chafee, 33rd Dist. Rep. Gregory Haddad, 54th Dist.
<u>HB. 5121</u>	Summary: To establish a personal income tax deduction for student loan interest.
	Status: Change of Reference, Senate to Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding
	Date of Last Action: 2/24/2022
HB. 5128	AN ACT CONCERNING THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED TO EVALUATE WHETHER TO ESTABLISH A POST-SECONDARY PRISON EDUCATION OFFICE
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist.
	Summary: To extend the reporting date for and revise the membership of the task force established to evaluate whether to establish a post-secondary prison education office.
	Status: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office

	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT PROHIBITING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM INQUIRING ABOUT A PROSPECTIVE STUDENT'S CRIMINAL HISTORY DURING THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS
HB. 5129	Sponsor(s): Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist. Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist. Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist.
<u>IIB. 3129</u>	Summary: To prohibit institutions of higher education from inquiring about a prospective student's criminal history during the admissions process.
	Status: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
HB. 5130	AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR NONPROFIT EMPLOYEES
	Sponsor(s): Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist. Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist.
	Summary: To establish a loan forgiveness program for nonprofit employees.
	Status: Favorable Change of Reference, Senate to Committee on Appropriations
	Date of Last Action: 3/8/2022
<u>HB. 5131</u>	AN ACT CONCERNING HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR PART-TIME FACULTY EMPLOYED BY THE CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
	Sponsor(s): Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist.Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist. Sen. Matthew L. Lesser, 9th Dist.
	Summary: To require health insurance benefits for the part-time faculty employed by the Connecticut State University System who have taught

	not less than ninety credit hours during the preceding ten years.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and
	Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/3/2022
	AN ACT ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF
	HOUSING-INSECURE STUDENTS AT PUBLIC
	INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.Rep. Kate Farrar, 20th
	Dist.Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist.Rep. Brian T. Smith, 48th Dist.
IID 5126	Rep. Peter A. Tercyak, 26th Dist.Rep. Juan R. Candelaria, 95th Dist.
<u>HB. 5136</u>	
	Summary: To require public institutions of higher education to assess
	and address homelessness and housing insecurity among students.
	Status: Filed with Legislative Commissioners' Office
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING THE EDUCATION COST SHARING
	GRANT FORMULA AND THE FUNDING OF OTHER
	EDUCATION PROGRAMS
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Jeff Currey, 11th Dist.Rep. Antonio Felipe, 130th
	Dist. Rep. David Arconti, 109th Dist. Rep. Josh Elliott, 88th Dist. Rep.
	Jason Rojas, 9th Dist.Rep. Kara Rochelle, 104th Dist. Rep. Maria P.
	Horn, 64th Dist.Rep. Steven J. Stafstrom, 129th Dist. Rep. Anthony L.
	Nolan, 39th Dist.Rep. Juan R. Candelaria, 95th Dist.
<u>HB. 5283</u>	Rep. Tom Arnone, 58th Dist.Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist. Rep.
	Gary A. Turco, 27th Dist.Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist.
	Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.
	Summary: To establish a new method of funding public education in the
	state.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Education
	Date of Last Action: 2/28/2022

HB. 5299	AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR THE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING PROGRAM OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee Summary: To increase the age for eligibility for the post-secondary education funding program offered by the Department of Children and Families.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
HB. 5300	AN ACT REQUIRING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR THE MERGER OR CLOSING OF INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND PROHIBITING THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE REGIONAL COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee Summary: To require legislative approval for the merger or closing of institutions within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities and prohibiting the consolidation of the regional community-technical colleges. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
HB. 5301	AN ACT CONCERNING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

	Summary: To require the Board of Regents for Higher Education to
	study issues relating to workforce development in the state.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and
	Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
<u>HB. 5302</u>	Summary: Section 1. (Effective from passage) The Office of Higher Education shall conduct a study relating to post-secondary education in the state. Not later than January 1, 2023, the office shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, on the results of such study to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to higher education and employment advancement.
	Status: Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022 AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STUDENT LOAN REGISTRY
	Sponsor(s): Banking Committee
<u>HB. 5318</u>	Summary: To establish a student loan registry.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Banking
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
HB. 5350	AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A POLICY PROTECTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.

	Summary: To require public institutions of higher education in the state
	to adopt a policy that protects freedom of expression on campus.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Judiciary
	Date of Last Action: 3/3/2022
	AN ACT REQUIRING THE BOARD OF REGENTS FOR
	HIGHER EDUCATION TO DEVELOP SEMINAR
	PROGRAMS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES
	Sponsor(s): Sen. Martin M. Looney, 11th Dist.Sen. Bob Duff, 25th
	Dist. Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist.Sen. Jorge Cabrera, 17th Dist. Sen.
	Steve Cassano, 4th Dist. Sen. Christine Cohen, 12th Dist. Sen. Mary
	Daugherty Abrams, 13th Dist .Sen. Mae Flexer, 29th Dist. Sen. John
	W. Fonfara, 1st Dist. Sen. Will Haskell, 26th Dist. Sen. Julie Kushner,
	24th Dist. Sen. Rick Lopes, 6th Dist. Sen. Patricia Billie Miller, 27th Dist.
	Sen. Marilyn V. Moore, 22nd Dist. Sen. Derek Slap, 5th Dist. Sen. Gary
<u>SB. 3</u>	A. Winfield, 10th Dist. Rep. Stephanie Thomas, 143rd Dist.
	A. Willield, Tour Dist. Rep. Stephanic Thomas, 1451d Dist.
	Summary: To require the Board of Regents for Higher Education to
	develop seminar programs for small businesses to enroll employees in
	courses relating to online commerce at regional community-technical
	colleges.
	coneges.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and
	Employment Advancement
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	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING THE UNFUNDED PENSION
	LIABILITY PORTION AND THE RETIREE PENSION AND
	THE RETIREE HEALTH CARE LIABILITY PORTION OF
	THE FRINGE BENEFIT COST FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE
	CONSTITUENT UNITS OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF
S.B. 8	HIGHER EDUCATION
<u>5.D. 0</u>	
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Committee
	Communication
	Summary: To require the Comptroller to fund the unfunded pension
	Summing. To require the Comptioner to fund the antanaea pension

	liability portion of the fringe benefit cost for employees of the constituent units of the state system of higher education.
	Status: Favorable Change of Reference, House to Committee on Appropriations
	Date of Last Action: 3/8/2022
	AN ACT PROHIBITING AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM WITHHOLDING TRANSCRIPTS
	Sponsor(s): Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.
<u>S.B. 17</u>	Summary: To prohibit an institution of higher education from withholding a student's transcript for failure to pay a debt owed to the institution.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING THE NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF STUDENT ATHLETES
<u>S.B. 20</u>	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
	Summary: To remove the prohibition on the use of institutional marks by a student athlete and require institutions of higher education to adopt
	a policy regarding the use of institutional marks.
	a policy regarding the use of institutional marks. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and
S.B. 45	a policy regarding the use of institutional marks. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

	Summary: To increase the annual expenditure on the Learn Here, Live Here program to not more than five million dollars and to make such program available only to individuals whose income is fifty-five thousand dollars or less.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Commerce
	Date of Last Action: 2/25/2022
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TAX ON THE ENDOWMENT ASSETS OF CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CONCERNING THE USE OF SUCH REVENUE
	Sponsor(s): Sen. Ryan Fazio, 36th Dist.
<u>S.B. 65</u>	Summary: To establish a tax on the endowment assets of certain institutions of higher education in this state and direct the revenue collected to reimburse employees who contribute to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund under section 31-49g of the general statutes.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding
	Date of Last Action: 2/15/2022
S.B. 86	AN ACT INCREASING FUNDING FOR THE DEBT-FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROGRAM TO EXPAND ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS TO PERSONS ENROLLED IN AN APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Rep. David Michel, 146th Dist.Sen. Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist. Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.
	Summary: To increase funding for the debt-free community college program to expand eligibility for awards to persons enrolled in an apprenticeship program.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

	Date of Last Action: 2/15/2022		
S.B. 103	AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY AND THE CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENTAL LOAN AUTHORITY		
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee		
	Summary: To (1) allow the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority to (A) finance projects for any purpose approved by the authority, (B) issue bonds for out-of-state health care institutions, and (C) make loans and transfer funds to its subsidiaries, and (2) allow the Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority to provide education financial assistance for any costs associated with pursuing a postsecondary education.		
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Date of Last Action: 2/18/2022		
	AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION		
<u>S.B. 105</u>	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee		
	Summary: To implement the recommendations of the Office of Higher Education.		
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022		
<u>S.B. 245</u>	AN ACT PROHIBITING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FROM CHARGING STUDENTS FOR ANY COURSE THAT ASSISTS THE INSTITUTION IN THE LICENSURE OR ACCREDITATION OF A PROGRAM OF		

	HIGHER LEARNING		
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Committee		
	Summary: To prohibit public institutions of higher education from		
	charging students for any course that assists the institution in the licensure		
	or accreditation of a program of higher learning.		
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and		
	Employment Advancement		
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022		
	AN ACT ALLOWING CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS AND		
	ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES		
	EMPLOYED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT TO		
	ISSUE AN EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE TO TRANSPORT		
	STUDENTS TO A HOSPITAL		
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Committee		
S.B. 246			
	Summary: To allow clinical social workers and advanced practice		
	registered nurses employed by The University of Connecticut to issue an		
	emergency certificate to transport students to a hospital.		
	Status Defend to Init Committee on Higher Education and		
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Employment / telvement		
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022		
	AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER		
	EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A POLICY REGARDING		
S.B. 247	FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION ON CAMPUS		
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement		
	Committee		
	Summary: To require public institutions of higher education in the state		
	to adopt a policy on freedom of expression on campus.		

	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
S.B. 250	AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LOAN REIMBURSEMENT FOR CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS WHO GRADUATED FROM A STATE UNIVERSITY
	Sponsor(s): Sen. Gary A. Winfield, 10th Dist .Rep. Corey P. Paris, 145th Dist. Rep. Eleni Kavros DeGraw, 17th Dist. Rep. Gary A. Turco, 27th Dist. Rep. Aimee Berger-Girvalo, 111th Dist.Rep. Christine Palm, 36th Dist. Rep. Geraldo C. Reyes, 75th Dist.Rep. Bobby G. Gibson, 15th Dist. Rep. Jennifer Leeper, 132nd Dist.Rep. Emmanuel Sanchez, 24th Dist. Rep. John-Michael Parker, 101st Dist.Rep. Tammy R. Exum, 19th Dist. Rep. Matt Blumenthal, 147th Dist.Rep. Mary Welander, 114th Dist. Rep. Anne M. Hughes, 135th Dist.Rep. Stephen R Meskers, 150th Dist. Rep. Josh Elliott, 88th Dist.Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.
	Summary: To establish a loan reimbursement program for Connecticut residents who graduated from a state university. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT EXPANDING TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR CAREERS IN HEALTH CARE
<u>S.B. 251</u>	Sponsor(s): Rep. John K. Hampton, 16th Dist.Rep. Michael A. Winkler, 56th Dist.
	Summary: To develop initiatives that address the critical shortage of nursing and health care professionals in the state.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING TAX CREDITS FOR EMPLOYERS WHO MAKE PAYMENTS TOWARD TUITION COSTS OF EMPLOYEES AND DONATE TO ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
<u>S.B. 252</u>	Summary: To provide a tax credit to employers that (1) make payments for the tuition costs of employees who attend an institution of higher education, and (2) donate to an endowed professorship at an institution of higher education in the state.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
	AN ACT CONCERNING FIXED TUITION AT STATE UNIVERSITIES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
S.B. 253	Summary: To fix the rate of tuition for first-time students for four consecutive academic years at state universities and The University of Connecticut.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement
	Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022
S.B. 279	AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE REGARDING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT STATUTES
	Sponsor(s): Higher Education and Employment Advancement

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Summary: To recommend minor and technical changes to the higher education and employment advancement statutes.

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement

Date of Last Action: 3/4/2022

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

Current Status: The Maine State Legislature convened its 130th session on January 5, 2022 and will adjourn on April 20, 2022. Committee meetings will take place remotely via video conference this session, and masks are required in the Maine State House.

Governor Mills' February 10, 2022 State of the State Address.

Governor Mills addressed the citizens of Maine about the state's comeback from the Covid-19 Pandemic, and noted while there has been progress, more needs to be done. The Governor proposed that half of the state's budget surplus or \$411 million be returned in the form of checks of approximately \$500 to offset rising costs due to inflation and other related costs. Under the Maine Jobs and Recovery Plan, the state will invest \$50 million to increase the supply of high-energy affordable homes for low-income residents.

Governor Mills' higher education priorities include shaving off higher tuition costs across the UMaine System, making community college free and investing \$21 million to train new health care workers. To reduce student debt, the Governor proposed to overhaul the Maine Tax Credit so that graduates will be eligible for up to \$25,000 in relief.

	AN ACT TO INCREASE FACULTY IN NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS BY AMENDING THE NURSING EDUCATION LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Meyer, Perry, Geiger, Brenner
ME H 85	Summary: Amends the nursing education loan repayment program, extends eligibility to apply to individuals who are currently enrolled in master's or doctoral degree programs, specifies that applicants must indicate an intention to work as full-time nursing faculty in a nursing education program in the State, increases that required commitment from 3 years to 5 years after acceptance into the nursing education loan repayment program.
	Status: Pending - Carryover - SENATE Date of Last Action:* 4/28/2021
ME H 919	FACULTY MEMBER AND NONFACULTY STAFF MEMBERS
	Sponsor(s): Millett R, Daughtry M, Vitelli, Breen, Pebworth, Osher,

	Roeder, Rafferty
	Summary: Adds a faculty member and non faculty staff member to the board of trustees of the University of Maine system, adds 2 members to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System, a faculty member and a non faculty staff member, the members are full voting members, serve 5-year terms and are appointed by the Governor from a list provided by their respective unions.
	Status: Vetoed - Vetoed by Governor Date of Last Action:* 06/23/2021 - Vetoed
	REPRESENTATION ON EDUCATIONAL BOARDS
	Sponsor(s): Collings, Talbot Ross, Sylvester, Osher
ME H 1025	Summary: Directs the Department of Education to conduct an analysis of the demographic and geographic representation of policy-making educational boards with members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.
	Status: Pending - Carryover - SENATE Date of Last Action:* 6/9/2021
	GOVERNANCE OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
ME H 1252	Sponsor(s): Millett R, Vitelli, Breen, Pebworth, Osher, Roeder, Rafferty
ME H 1353	Summary: Strengthens the governance of the state community college system and university of state system.
	Status: Pending - Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs Date of Last Action:* 1/5/2022
	AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE A GENERAL FUND BOND ISSUE TO STRENGTHEN UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND INNOVATION
ME H 1526	Sponsor(s): Pierce, Dunphy, Bennett, Jackson, Daughtry, Sanborn, Diamond, White
	Summary: The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$75,000,000, will be used to modernize facilities at all University of Maine System campuses in order to leverage at least \$130,000,000 in

	private matching funds and expand and enhance integrated education and professional training for fields including engineering, computing, information science, business and law.		
	Status: Voted, ONTP, 2/22/2022.		
	AN ACT TO BUILD A CHILDCARE SYSTEM BY RECRUITING AND RETAINING MAINE'S EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS WORKFORCE		
	Sponsor(s): Fecteau, McDonald, Stewart, Daughtry, Millett S., Hasenfus, Millett R., Jackson, Roberts-Lovell		
ME H 1652	Summary: This bill requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, the Commissioner of Education and the Commissioner of Labor jointly to develop and implement an early childhood educators workforce support program to recruit and retain early childhood educators working with children up to 5 years of age.		
	Status: Referred to IDEA, 1/11/2022.		
	AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNANCE OF THE MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM AND UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM		
	Sponsor(s): Millett, Rafferty, Breen, Roeder, Osher, Vitelli, Pebworth		
ME H 1820	Summary: This bill adds 3 members each to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Community College System: a faculty member, a nonfaculty staff member and an adjunct faculty member, notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 17, section 3104, which governs conflicts of interest and contracts made on behalf of the State. The members are nonvoting members, serve 2-year terms and are appointed by the Governor from a list provided by their respective unions. The successive members for a seat may not come from the same campus in any 2 consecutive terms. They receive reasonable leave with pay at their university salaries for board meetings and other board business conducted during working hours, and their compensation as university employees is not otherwise altered. The bill also requires that the Governor solicit lists of eligible candidates for initial appointments within 60 days of the effective date of this Act.		
	Status: Pending, Joint Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, 2/2/2022.		

<u>ME H 1880</u>	AN ACT TO PROVIDE TEXTBOOK COST ASSISTANCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EARLY COLLEGE COURSES
	Sponsor(s): O'Neil, Pouliot, Crockett, Woodsome, Daughtry, McCrea
	Summary: This bill establishes the Textbook Cost Assistance Fund in the Department of Education to be used by the department to provide textbook cost assistance to secondary students enrolled in postsecondary courses.
	Status: Pending, Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, 3/3/2022.
	AN ACT TO INCREASE MAINE'S VETERINARY WORKFORCE
ME H 1885	Sponsor(s): Fay, Kinney, Zeigler, Bailey, McCrea, Cloutier, Perry, Crafts, Tuell
	Summary: This bill amends the Maine Veterinary Medicine Loan Program in the following ways. 1. It amends the definition of "insufficient veterinary services" to include an insufficient number of practitioners of emergency and critical care services. 2. It adds the option for veterinary students to qualify for the program by demonstrating an interest in working in underserved geographic regions of the State, as determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by rule. 3. It increases the maximum number of annual loan awards from 2 to 10. 4. It increases the maximum loan amount from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year for a period of up to 4 years.
	Status: Pending, Joint Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business
	AN ACT TO PROVIDE STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF
<u>ME S 161</u>	Sponsor(s): Daughtry M
	Summary: Provides student loan debt relief, alleviates the financial burden of student loans.
	Status: Pending - Carryover - Joint Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

	Date of Last Action:* 3/3/2021
	AN ACT CONCERNING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES
	Sponsor(s): Jackson
ME S 572	Summary: Concerns sexual misconduct on college campuses, requires institutions of higher education in the State to adopt sexual misconduct policies, creates the Higher Education Sexual Misconduct Advisory Commission to develop a biennial sexual misconduct climate survey to be provided to the Commissioner of Education and disseminated to institutions of higher education to conduct the surveys on each of their campuses.
	Status: Pending - Carryover - Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs Date of Last Action:* 5/19/2021
	AN ACT TO ADDRESS STAFFING SHORTAGES IN CRITICAL PUBLIC SAFETY JOBS THROUGH ECONOMIC INCENTIVES
	Sponsor(s): Baldacci, Miramant, Hickman, Dunphy M, Cardone, Sylvester, O'Connell, Curry, Rafferty
ME S 623	Summary: Establishes the Fund To Provide Public Service Student Loan Forgiveness in the Finance Authority of of the State to provide funds for student loan forgiveness for local and county law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical services persons, dispatchers and public health workers, appropriates a specified amount to the fund.
	Status: Pending - Joint Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business Date of Last Action:* 1/5/2022
ME S 627	AN ACT TO MODERNIZE FUNDING OF PUBLICLY FUNDED TUITION STUDENTS ATTENDING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

	Sponsor(s): Maxmin, Bailey, O'Neil, Sampson, Crafts, Baldacci		
	Summary: Modernizes funding of publicly funded tuition students attending career and technical education programs.		
	Status: Failed - Died Date of Last Action:* 1/5/2022		
	AN ACT TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS AND DIPLOMAS		
<u>ME S 656</u>	Sponsor(s): Vitelli, Daughtry M, Hickman, Tepler, O'Neil, Stewart, Brenner, Curry, Rafferty		
	Summary: Improves student access to postsecondary school transcripts and diplomas.		
	Status: Status: Pending - HOUSE Date of Last Action:* 1/5/2022		
	STUDENT ATHLETES NAME AND LIKENESS		
	Sponsor(s): Luchini, Brennan		
ME S 663	Summary: Regards the use of a student athlete name, image, likeness or autograph, prohibits a college or university from adopting or enforcing a policy, requirement, standard or limitation that prohibits or otherwise prevents a student athlete who is participating in an intercollegiate athletic program at the college or university from taking specified actions, provides that a student athlete may earn compensation from selling their autograph in a specified manner.		
	Status: Pending - HOUSE Date of Last Action:* 1/5/2022		
	RESOLVE, TO REESTABLISH THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE CREATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM		
<u>ME S 680</u>	Sponsor(s): Daughtry		
	Summary: This resolve reestablishes the Task Force To Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education		

	System.		
	Status: In concurrence; order sent forthwith. 2/23/2022.		
	AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATIONAL		
	OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT		
	Sponsor(s): Pouliot		
ME S 798	Summary: This bill makes the current income tax credit for educational opportunity inapplicable to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, and creates a new simplified tax credit for student loan repayment applicable to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2022. It provides that taxpayers who were eligible for a refundable credit under the credit for educational opportunity may continue to receive a refundable credit for tax years beginning before January 1, 2024.		
	Status: Pending, Joint Taxation Committee, 1/27/2022.		
	AN ACT TO EXPAND NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS		
ME C 1907	Sponsor(s): Daughtry, Millett S., Claxtin, Perry, Martin, Woodsome, Meyer, Zager		
ME S 1807	Summary: This bill provides ongoing funds to the Maine Community College System to expand nursing education programs.		
	Status: Pending, Joint Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs, 12/15/2021. Hearing held on 3/10/2022.		
	AN ACT TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS AND DIPLOMAS		
ME S 1813	Sponsor(s): Vitelli, Hickman, Tepler, Brenner, O'Neil, Curry, Rafferty, Daughtry, Stewart		
	Summary: This bill prohibits any public or private postsecondary school in the State from refusing to provide a transcript or diploma for		

	a student on the grounds that the student owes a debt, conditioning the provision of a transcript or diploma on the payment of a debt, charging a higher fee for obtaining a transcript or diploma or providing less favorable treatment of a request for a transcript or diploma because a student owes a debt or using the issuance of a transcript or diploma as a tool for debt collection. It gives the authority to enforce the prohibitions to the Superintendent of Consumer Credit Protection within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.
	Status: Reported out, OTP-AM/ONTP, March 3, 2022.
ME S 1978	AN ACT TO PROMOTE HOME OWNERSHIP BY REDUCING EDUCATION DEBT Summary: This bill, which is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business pursuant to Resolve 2021, chapter 64, provides one-time funds for mortgages and student debt forgiveness for first-time home buyers with existing student loan debt through a program of the Maine State Housing Authority.
	Status: Pending, Joint Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, 3/3/2022.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LEGISLATURE

Current Status: The Massachusetts State Legislature is currently in session. It was convened on January 5, 2022. Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022 includes an extension until July 15, 2022 of the remote meeting provisions of the Governor's March 12, 2020, Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Governor Baker's January 25, 2022 State of the State Address.

Governor Baker remarks on the investment of \$100 million into modernizing equipment at vocational and technical programs. The Governor notes that Massachusetts expanded Early College opportunities for thousands of students in Gateway Cities, and that the state government grew the state's Rainy Day fund from \$1 to \$5 billion between 2015-2020.

Massachusetts had the largest small business grant program in the country during the Covid-19 pandemic. This program funneled \$700 million to 15,000 small businesses, almost half of which were woman-owned and/or people of color-owned. Massachusetts also employed innovative COVID testing programs at colleges and K-12 schools. The Governor remarks that the unemployment rate is below 4% for the first time since March 2020, and that Massachusetts gained back over a half million jobs. Governor Baker will also ask legislators to eliminate income taxes for the lowest paid 230,000 taxpayers in the Commonwealth to boost economic well-being.

SIGNED INTO LAW

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HIGHER EDUCATION AFFORDABILITY TASK FORCE

Act No. 75 (H. 4018)

Summary: There shall be a task force to evaluate the affordability of public and private higher education options in the commonwealth. The evaluation shall include, but not be limited to, the impact of such affordability on: (i) the financial health and longevity of higher education institutions, including, but not limited to, the future role of small private colleges in the commonwealth; and (ii) the workforce pipeline, including, but not limited to: (A) attracting in-state and out-of-state students to higher education institutions in the commonwealth; (B) keeping students in the commonwealth after graduation; (C) the impact of student debt on career and other financial decisions; and (D) the ability of higher education institutions in the commonwealth to produce a workforce that can meet the employment needs of companies in the commonwealth and specific job sectors in need of specialized training.

	Status: Overrode Governor Baker's veto and passed in the Senate on 9/30/2021.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO STUDENT DEBT
	Sponsor(s): Office of the State Treasurer
<u>H. 41</u>	Summary: Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the University of Massachusetts, in consultation with the office of the state treasurer and the department of higher education, shall develop a pilot program on a single campus that provides enrolled students with an estimate of their total outstanding or pending student loan obligations. Said notice shall include, but not be limited to: (i) an estimate of the total amount of education loans incurred by the student; (ii) an estimate of the total potential payoff amount of the educational loans incurred or a range of the total payoff amount; and (iii) an estimate of the monthly repayment amounts that a similarly situated borrower may incur, including principal and interest, for the amount of loans the student has taken out at the time the information is provided. The University of Massachusetts shall report the results of said pilot program, together with any recommendations regarding whether such a notice should be provided to additional students, to the clerks of the house and senate, who shall forward the same to the joint committee on higher education, not later than one year from the effective date of this act.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO A LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM
	FOR HUMAN SERVICE WORKERS
<u>H. 266</u>	Sponsor(s): Roy, Murray, LaNatra, Hendricks, Gouveia, Domb, Carey, Capano, Biele, Barrett; LeBoeuf, Lewis, Higgins, Cahill, Cassidy, Walsh, Kane, Ultrino, Tucker, Nguyen, Orrall N, Robertson, Sabadosa, Soter, Lipper-Garabedi, Doherty, Sena, Duffy, Giannino, Howard, Kilcoyne, Kushmerek, Oliveira, Scanlon, Devers, Golden T, Malia, Galvin, Murphy J, Rogers J, Linsky, Stanley T, Haddad, Pignatelli, Barrows, Puppolo, McMurtry, O'Day, Garballey, Arciero, Balser, Chan, Howitt, Farley-Bouvier, Cutler, Keefe, Rogers D, Silvia, Fiola, Donahue, Kelcourse, DuBois, Gentile, Whipps Lee, McGonagle,

McKenna

Summary: There shall be a student loan repayment program for human service workers to encourage individuals to enter the field and maintain employment at human service programs. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services shall administer the program in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the Department of Higher Education.

To be eligible for this program, a participant must be working a minimum of 35 hours per week as a human service worker and have an individual income of no more than \$50,000 per year. Further, individuals must have maintained 12 consecutive months of employment as a human service worker at a minimum of 35 hours per week to be eligible for this program. This program will help defray costs from previously incurred student loans for graduates holding certificate, undergraduate or graduate degrees.

Status: Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means on 2/14/2022.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO COLLEGE IN HIGH SCHOOLS

Sponsor(s): Roy, Lipper-Garabedian

Summary: All public institutions of higher education shall develop written policies and procedures for accepting for the purposes of course credit to satisfy degree requirements certain scores on the College Board's advanced placement examinations, successful completion of college in high school courses as provided in section 37 of chapter 69, successful completion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, or and successful completion of dual enrollment courses.

H. 693

The board of higher education, in is cooperation with the board of trustees of each public institution including the University of Massachusetts, shall annually review the college in high school course-granting policies of each public institution of higher education in accordance with the requirements of this section and file a report with its findings and any recommendations with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives and chairs of the joint committee on higher education not later than July 1. Each public institution of higher education shall provide the board of higher education with all necessary data, in accordance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

of 1974, to conduct the analysis.

There shall be a Massachusetts Office of College in High School, herein the office. The office shall be overseen by the commissioner of the department of elementary and secondary education in consultation with the commissioner of the department of higher education. The office will administer innovative high school programs that expand student access to college and postsecondary opportunities through high-quality instructional programming, hereinafter referred to as college in high school, in order to increase the rates of student success in postsecondary attainment and in the workforce.

Status: Reporting date was extended to March 1, 2022 on 2/10/2022.

AN ACT ASSISTING LOW-INCOME STUDENTS SUCCESS THROUGH WORK-STUDY

Sponsor(s): Duffy, Keefe, Barber, Gonzalez, Higgins, Lewis, Domb, Gouveia, Kearney, Robinson, Sabadosa, Scanlon

Summary: To provide for the cost of creating a career pathways work-study trust fund and community college staff positions for the purposes of supporting the work of the trust fund established in section 5. The sums set forth in section 2 are hereby appropriated subject to the laws regulating the disbursement of public funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

H. 1322

Subject to appropriation, Bunker Hill Community College shall support education opportunity coordinator positions, through its entity, the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges. The coordinators shall work with low-income students, including recipients of cash assistance through transitional aid to families with dependent children, who enroll in community colleges across the state for the purpose of earning a certificate or two-year degree. Each community college shall have at least 1 on-campus coordinator. Coordinators shall provide focused assistance to recipients, including but not limited to developing career plans, identifying a program of study, accessing financial aid and work study, and helping obtain other supports such as childcare and transportation assistance. The coordinators shall work with recipients, community colleges, and case managers at the department of transitional assistance and other state agencies. Bunker Hill Community College,

through its entity, the Massachusetts Association of Community Colleges, shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the community colleges to ensure coordinators execute the duties of this paragraph.

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.

AN ACT COMMITTING TO HIGHER EDUCATION THE RESOURCES TO INSURE A STRONG AND HEALTHY PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Sponsor(s): Garballey, Mark Domb, Nguyen, Miranda, Minicucci, LeBoeuf, LaNatra, Kearney, Hendricks, Haggerty, Gouveia, Elugardo, Robertson, Ciccolo, Carey, Capano, Blais, Biele, Hawkins, Vargas, Barrett J, Murray, Giannino, Uyterhoeven, Scanlon, Ramos, Owens, Oliveira, Fluker Oakley, Kushmerek, Kilcoyne, Kerans, Howard, Meschino, Duffy, Sena, Doherty, Rausch, Vitolo, Soter, Santiago, Sabadosa, Robinson, Puppolo, Farley-Bouvier, Coppinger, Chan, Devers, Ashe, Arciero, Ehrlich, O'Day, McMurtry, Keefe, Donato, Stanley T, Linsky, Honan, Rogers J, Murphy J, Galvin, Malia, Balser, Muratore, Lewis, Higgins, Fernandes D, Connolly, Cahill, Cassidy, Madaro, Ultrino, Tucker, Cabral, Whipps Lee, Gonzalez, Gentile, DuBois, Day, Barber, Donahue, Livingstone, Silvia

<u>H. 1325</u>

Summary: Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the council shall establish a 5-year schedule, beginning in fiscal year 2022, to restore the level of funding of public institutions of higher education and needs-based financial assistance developed under section 15B to no less than the total per student appropriation for fiscal year 2001, adjusted for inflation to the current fiscal year using the consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, as determined by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, and further adjusted for changes in student population and adjusted to recognize those institutions' fixed-costs.

For the fiscal years 2022 through 2026, no tuition or fees shall increase for students enrolled at public institutions of higher education in any fiscal year where the appropriation for public institutions of higher education is at least the amount requested by the council as provided in section 15 of chapter 15A of the General Laws.

	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
<u>H. 1326</u>	AN ACT IMPROVING GRADUATION RATES AT PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
	Sponsor(s): Garballey
	Summary: Section 9 of Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after subsection (gg), the following subsection: (hh) develop and administer a policy requiring all public institutions of higher education to provide flexibility in graduation requirements for students who have one or more diagnosed and documented intellectual or developmental disabilities, including autism spectrum disorders, and are enrolled in credit-bearing classes with the intent of earning a degree.
	Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 7/31/2021.
Н. 1327	AN ACT EXPANDING ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION AND FEE WAIVERS FOR ADOPTED FOSTER CHILDREN
	Sponsor(s): Garballey, Vargas
	Summary: The bill expands tuition and fee waivers for adopted foster children.
	Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 6/8/2021.
<u>H. 1328</u>	AN ACT IMPROVING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Garballey, Tucker, Comerford
	Summary: The department of higher education shall review programs of financial aid for students attending public institutions of higher education in the commonwealth, including grants, tuition waivers and loan programs. Based on the review, the department shall make recommendations, including legislation, for comprehensive redesign and reform of the financial aid system to increase student access to higher education, improve affordability of higher education for students and

families, and reduce opportunity and achievement gaps among students, particularly for students of color and disadvantaged populations.

In preparing its recommendations, the department shall consult with institutional financial aid officers, the office of student financial assistance and its financial aid advisory committee, groups representing students at the University of Massachusetts, state universities and community colleges, students and parents who navigate and use state financial aid, and other stakeholders. The department shall review the design of financial aid programs in other states and recommendations of experts. The department shall also solicit information from the chairs and vice chairs of the committee on higher education.

Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 5/18/2021.

AN ACT CREATING A CHILD SAVINGS PROGRAM

Sponsor(s): Garballey

Summary: The Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority shall establish a college savings program known as the Massachusetts Child Savings Account Program.

- (1) The Massachusetts Education Financing Authority shall create a college savings account for each eligible child born and issued a birth certificate in the commonwealth.
- (2) Upon establishment of a college savings account, the commonwealth shall deposit \$250 into the account.
- (3) For accounts where a child's parent or guardian is eligible for the Earned Income Tax Credit, the commonwealth shall match the amount deposited in the account by a child's parent or guardian on a dollar-to-dollar basis; provided, however, that the commonwealth shall deposit no more than \$250 in matching funds per account per year.

No withdrawals shall be made from an account until the account holder is 18 years of age or has enrolled full-time in a post-secondary education program, including a college, university, vocational school, or a two or four-year degree program from an accredited educational institution.

Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Higher Education on

H. 1329

	2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending
	concurrence.
	AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A FINISH LINE GRANT PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE COLLEGE COMPLETION
	Sponsor(s): Garballey
Н 1220	Summary: There shall be a Finish Line Grant Program to provide scholarships to cover the entire cost of tuition and fees for one year other than the first, in a program leading to an associate's or bachelor's degree at a Massachusetts public college or university. The scholarships will be available to residents of the Commonwealth in need of financial assistance whose family income is less than one hundred seventy five percent of median family income in Massachusetts.
Н. 1330	The Department of Higher Education shall establish guidelines governing said program, which shall include but not be limited to eligibility requirements, selection criteria (such as acceptable grades and an academic plan for timely degree completion), and other guidelines designed to help meet the department's goals, such as increasing overall student success and graduation rates, and lowering achievement gaps for high-risk students; provided, further, that no funds from this scholarship program may be used to pay the tuition or fees for any course or program offered or administered by a non-public entity and that no student shall be eligible to receive a scholarship from this program more than one time.
	Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT CREATING HIGHER EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES, AUTISM, AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.
<u>Н. 1331</u>	Sponsor(s): Garballey, Haddad
	Summary: Public institutions of higher education, in consultation with the department of higher education and consistent with the purposes of this section, may create guidelines to select students participating in higher education pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, guidelines to determine campus capacity and to coordinate selection of students

with relevant local, state or other public agencies serving students with severe intellectual disabilities, severe autism spectrum disorders or other severe developmental disabilities; provided, however, that these individuals shall not be denied opportunities to participate in higher education solely due to their intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorders or developmental disability. Public institutions of higher education, in consultation with the department of higher education and consistent with the purposes of this section, may also establish course selection guidelines to help ensure that participating individuals receive guidance in selecting courses that are appropriate to their individual strengths, needs, preferences and interests. Participating individuals shall be permitted to: (i) take a credit-bearing, undergraduate academic course for credit if they have met the course prerequisites and requirements; or (ii) audit a credit-bearing, undergraduate academic course, consistent with campus policies governing selection of students for audit participation, if they have not met the course prerequisites and requirements.

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.

AN ACT CREATING FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY REDUCING UNNECESSARY STATE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Sponsor(s): Garballey

H. 1332

Summary: Each institution within the system of public higher education shall annually produce audited financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, generally accepted auditing standards, and generally accepted governmental auditing standards. The statements shall be in accordance with procedures for timeliness and for disclosures as proscribed by the office of the state comptroller and approved by the state auditor. The statements shall include all expenditures and revenues from all appropriated and non-appropriated funds and be filed with the governor, office of state comptroller, the board of higher education, the house and senate committees on ways and means, and the joint committee on higher education no later than October 15 each year.

Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 5/18/2021.

AN ACT CREATING HIGHER EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITIES, AUTISM, AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES WHO HAVE EXITED SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sponsor(s): Garballey, Haddad

H. 1336

Summary: In order to ensure that individuals with severe intellectual disabilities, severe autism spectrum disorders, or other severe developmental disabilities over age 21 have opportunities to be included with nondisabled students in all aspects of higher education for the purpose of gaining academic, career, technical, and independent living skills to prepare them for adult life, including but not limited to employment and civic engagement, these individuals shall not be required to take any standardized college entrance aptitude test; have a high school diploma or its equivalent; meet minimum academic course requirements; meet minimum grade point average requirements; or obtain a passing score on the statewide assessment tests utilized as a basis for competency determinations, under section 1D of chapter 69 of the General Laws, in order to participate in undergraduate academic courses that include students without disabilities, participate in internships or work-based training in settings with nondisabled students, and participate in extracurricular activities and all other aspects of campus life, in accordance with the provisions of this section.

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.

AN ACT TO GUARANTEE DEBT-FREE PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

H. 1339

Sponsor(s): Higgins, Sabadosa, Lewis, Malia, Garballey, Hawkins, LeBoeuf, Madaro, Minicucci, Arciero, Carey, Robinson, Owens, Duffy, Gentile, Gonzalez, Keefe, Doherty, Vargas, Kilcoyne, Miranda, Nguyen, Fernandes, Murray, Gouveia, Cabral, Barber, Connolly, Domb, Mark, Blais, Vitolo, Capano, Howard, O'Day, Uyterhoeven, Ciccolo, Sena, Farley-Bouvier, Devers, Elugardo, Chang-Diaz, Comerford, Brady, O'Connor, Lewis, Eldridge

Summary: Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, the board shall create a grant program to pay the

	equivalent of tuition and mandatory fees to an eligible student at any Massachusetts public college or university, or certificate, vocational or training program at a public institution. Students meeting the income eligibility for Federal Pell Grants shall receive additional aid in grants to pay for the additional costs of attendance as calculated by the academic institution of enrollment, including, but not limited to, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MASSACHUSETTS
	HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS INITIATIVE
	Sponsor(s): Vargas, Higgins, Uyterhoeven, Kushmerek, Kerans, Howard, Duffy, Rausch, Vitolo, Sabadosa, Nguyen, Minicucci, Domb, Ciccolo, Carey, Blais, Hawkins, Hill, Tucker, Whipps Lee, DuBois, Barber, Livingstone, Zlotnik, Gordon, Farley-Bouvier, Mark, Devers, Garballey, Stanley T, Khan, Malia
<u>H. 1368</u>	Summary: The Department of Higher Education (DHE) shall establish an initiative known as the Hunger-Free Campus Initiative to address college student food insecurity and hunger across all public higher education campuses. This initiative may also be available to certain not-for-profit campuses that disproportionately serve low-income students as determined by the Hunger Free Campus Program office. DHE shall establish an office of capacity building services (to be known hereafter as "the office"), whose mission is to support institutions of public higher education, to build their capacity to understand and address existing gaps in addressing student food insecurity and hunger on their campus, using interventions that reflect best practices. The office shall assist public higher education campuses to be designated as a "Hunger-Free Campus" as delineated below and to meet the eligibility for Hunger-Free Campus grants. In addition, the office administers the
	Hunger-Free Campus Grant Program. Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Higher Education on 2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
<u>Н. 2735</u>	AN ACT REGARDING STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS FOR THOSE WORKING IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

	Sponsor(s): Mirra, Whipps Lee, Muratore, Kearney, Soter, Xiarhos
	Summary: Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Commonwealth shall cover student loan payments for any individual who, having attained a criminal justice degree or law enforcement certificate from a Massachusetts state college, university, or community college, is currently working for a law enforcement agency, municipal police department, or the state police in the Commonwealth.
	Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 11/16/2021.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE RETIREMENT OF UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS POLICE
	Sponsor(s): Zlotnik, Haddad
<u>H. 2806</u>	Summary: Includes police officers of the University of Massachusetts in Group 4 of the contributory retirement system for public employees.
	Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Public Service on 2/9/2022; the reporting date was extended to March 31, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF TAX CREDIT
	Sponsor(s): Arciero, Harrington, Kearney
<u>H. 2812</u>	Summary: "Qualified taxpayer", an individual who has: (i) incurred at least \$20,000 in undergraduate or graduate student loan debt or both; and (ii) has at least \$5,000 in outstanding undergraduate or graduate student loan debt or both when submitting an application under paragraph (3).
	Subject to the limitations of this subsection, a qualified taxpayer may take a credit against the taxes imposed by this chapter. The individual shall submit with the application an assurance that the individual will use any credit approved under this subsection for the repayment of the individual's undergraduate or graduate student loan debt or both as soon as practicable. The total amount of the credit claimed under this

	subsection shall be recaptured if the individual does not use the credit approved under this subsection for the repayment of the individual's undergraduate or graduate student loan debt or both within 2 years from the close of the taxable year for which the credit is claimed. The individual who claimed the credit shall pay the total amount of the credit claimed as taxes payable to the commonwealth for the taxable year in which the event requiring recapture of the credit occurs. Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue; reporting date
	was extended to May 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT TO REDUCE GRADUATE STUDENT LOAN DEBT
<u>H. 2834</u>	Sponsor(s): Cabral, Malia, Ashe, Gouveia, Hendricks, Sabadosa, Lipper-Garabedi, Doherty, Giannino Summary: Provides for a tax deduction for certain graduate student
	loan debt.
	Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue; reporting date was extended to May 4, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT PROVIDING PERMANENCY TO THE MASSACHUSETTS EDUCATIONAL FINANCING AUTHORITY'S COLLEGE SAVINGS TAX DEDUCTION PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Roy
<u>H. 3052</u>	Summary: Makes the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority's College Savings Tax Deduction Program permanent (it was scheduled to end in January 2021).
	Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Revenue on 2/9/2022; reporting date extended to May 4, 2022.
<u>H. 3958</u>	AN ACT PROVIDING RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION DURING EXAMS
	Sponsor(s): Lewis, Rausch, Silvia, Chandler, Higgins, Devers, Williams

	Summary: Institutions of higher education shall develop policies to accommodate student absences to allow students to take holidays for reasons of faith or conscience or for organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church or religious organization, so that students' grades shall not be adversely impacted by the absences. Students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices shall be reasonably accommodated with respect to all examinations and other academic requirements. Instructors shall accept at face value the sincerity of the students' religious beliefs and keep requests for accommodation confidential. Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 10/7/2021.
<u>H. 4399</u>	**ADOPTED** EXTENSION ORDER Sponsor(s): Rogers, D. Summary: Grants the committee on Higher Education until April 4, 2022 to make its final report on current Senate documents numbered 822, 824, 829, 832, 839, 842, 843, 846, 847, 848, 851, 852 and 1220, and House documents numbered 41, 1320, 1322, 1325, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1333, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1339, 1340, 1346, 1350, 1352, 1357, 1364, 1368 and 1968. Status: Adopted on 2/7/2022.
S. 120 (H.266)	AN ACT RELATIVE TO CREATING A LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR HUMAN SERVICE WORKERS Sponsor(s): Lesser, Lovely, Barrett, Whipps, O'Connor, Soter, Gentile, Kane, Scanlon, Puppolo, Jr., Hendricks, Howard, Gobi, LeBoeuf, Lewis, Eldridge, Moore, Comerford, Keenan, Crighton, Jehlen, DiDomenico, Orrall, Cyr, Domb, Chang-Diaz, Roy, Gobi, Haddad, Garballey and others Summary: There shall be a student loan repayment program for human service workers to encourage individuals to enter the field and maintain employment at human service programs. The Executive Office of Health

	and Human Services shall administer the program in accordance with guidelines promulgated by the Department of Higher Education.
	Status: Bill reported favorably in committee and was referred to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means on 1/31/2022.
	AN ACT IMPROVING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Comerford, Moore, Malia
<u>S. 825</u>	Summary: The department of higher education shall review programs of financial aid for students attending public institutions of higher education in the commonwealth, including grants, tuition waivers and loan programs. Based on the review, the department shall make recommendations, including legislation, for comprehensive redesign and reform of the financial aid system to increase student access to higher education, improve affordability of higher education for students and families, and reduce opportunity and achievement gaps among students, particularly for students of color and disadvantaged populations.
	Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 5/18/2021.
	AN ACT SUPPORTING URGENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE EQUITY THROUGH STUDENT SERVICES
	Sponsor(s): Gobi, Comerford, Roy, Meschino
S. 833 (H. 1358)	Summary: It is hereby declared to be the policy of the commonwealth to support community college student success through wraparound supports and services to improve outcomes for students through a grant program to be known as the Supporting Urgent Community College Equity through Student Services program, hereinafter referred to as the SUCCESS program.
	Subject to appropriation, the SUCCESS program shall provide grants to community colleges to provide wraparound supports and services to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable student populations including, but not limited to, low-income, first generation, minority, and disabled students and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning students.

	Status: Bill reported favorably in committee and referred to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, 11/24/2021.
	AN ACT REQUIRING INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO PROVIDE UNIFORM FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS
	Sponsor(s): Lesser, Ashe, Rausch
<u>S. 843</u>	Summary: An institution of higher education shall provide each accepted applicant with a uniform financial aid information shopping sheet to assist the accepted applicant with the applicant's decision to enroll in the institution of higher education. The uniform financial aid information shopping sheet shall be provided to an accepted applicant within a reasonable time prior to the institution's enrollment deadline. An institution of higher education may additionally provide: (i) an electronic version of the uniform financial aid information shopping sheet in a printable format; (ii) an electronic version of the uniform financial aid information shopping sheet that is readable on a mobile device; or (iii) both.
	Status: Reporting date extended to April 4, 2022. Accompanies a study order, <u>S2714</u> as of 2/28/2022.
	AN ACT TO INCREASE ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION FOR DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS
	Sponsor(s): Eldridge, Lewis
<u>S. 845</u>	Summary: As of October 1, 2024, institutions of higher education in the Commonwealth shall not use standardized test scores for purposes of determining student admission to undergraduate or graduate degree programs.
	Status: Reporting date extended to April 4, 2022. Accompanies a study order, <u>\$2714</u> as of 2/24/2022.
<u>S. 849</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO ADVANCE PLACEMENT EXAMINATIONS
	Sponsor(s): Moore, Kane

Summary: All public institutions of higher education, as set forth in section 5, shall develop and adopt written policies and procedures to accept a score of three, four, and five on all advanced placement examinations to satisfy degree requirements. The policies shall indicate whether the credit shall be granted for general education, major, or elective requirements at the institution, and shall include procedures related to the transferability of these credits to another institution of higher education. An institution may not require an exam score of more than three unless the chief academic officer provides evidence that the higher score is necessary for a student to be successful in a related or more advanced course for which the lower-division course is a prerequisite. The department of higher education shall provide guidance on what constitutes as evidence for an institution to require an examination score of more than three.
Status: Last action was a virtual hearing on 7/13/2021.
AN ACT PROTECTING PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT INFORMATION Sponsor(s): Moore Summary: Public institutions of higher education, as set forth in section 5 of chapter 15A, and municipally owned institutions of higher education, shall not be required to produce education records, including information designated by the public institution of higher education as directory information, as defined under the Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. section 1232 (g). This section shall not apply to requests from federal, state, or municipal agencies. Status: Last action was a hearing on 7/13/2021.
AN ACT ASSISTING LOW INCOME STUDENTS SUCCESS
AN ACT ASSISTING LOW-INCOME STUDENTS SUCCESS THROUGH WORK-STUDY Sponsor(s): Moore, Robinson, Ashe, Eldridge Summary: There is hereby established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the Massachusetts Community College Career Pathways Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as the fund, to which shall be credited any appropriations, bond

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	proceeds or other monies authorized by the general court and
	specifically designated to be credited thereto. Bunker Hill Community
	College, hereinafter referred to as the college, shall hold the fund in an
	account or accounts separate from other funds or accounts; provided,
	that the fund shall be administered by the Massachusetts Association of
	Community Colleges. Amounts credited to the fund shall be used by the
	college to carry out the purposes of the fund as set forth in this section.
	Any monies unexpended at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the
	fund and may be expended by the college without further appropriation.
	land that had be expended by the conege without father appropriation.
	The fund shall be used to provide and fund state work-study
	employment opportunities for eligible low-income students enrolled in a
	certificate or two-year associate degree program at any community
	college. Preference shall be given to recipients of cash assistance through
	transitional aid to families with dependent children.
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	Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Higher Education on
	2/7/2022; reporting date extended to April 4, 2022 pending
	concurrence.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO UMASS TUITION CREDIT
	Sponsor(s): Pacheco
<u>S. 855</u>	
	Summary: The act outlines adjustment to tuition credits and fee waivers
	at the University of Massachusetts.
	Status: Accompanied by study order <u>S2714</u> , 2/24/2022.
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMONWEALTH CITIZEN
	SERVICE INITIATIVE
	Sponsor(s): Pacheco, Brady
	Summary There shall be a Massachusetta Sarrice Alliense
C 1040	Summary: There shall be a Massachusetts Service Alliance
<u>S. 1242</u>	Commission, referred to in this chapter as the MSA for the purpose of
	advising and assisting in the development and implementation of a
	comprehensive, state-wide plan for promoting volunteer involvement and
	citizen participation, as well as to serve as the commonwealth's liaison to
	national and state organizations which support the MSA's mission. The
	MSA shall establish guidelines and programs to reform, expand,
	replicate and implement community service and volunteer opportunities

	in the commonwealth. The programs and activities shall be coordinated among state departments and agencies to optimize the allocation of resources. The MSA shall promulgate regulations necessary to implement this section.
	Status: Bill reported favorably in committee and was referred to the Senate Ways and Means Committee on 2/24/2022.
	AN ACT SUPPORTING STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH
	Sponsor(s): Comerford, Lewis, Murray, Finegold, Stanley, Moore, Kane, DiDomenico, Crighton, Feeney
<u>S. 1266</u>	Summary: Commencing August 1, 2022, a public or private institution of higher education that issues student identification cards shall include on the student identification cards the telephone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, Crisis Text Line, and the school's campus police or security telephone number or, if the school does not have a campus police or security telephone number, the local nonemergency telephone number.
	Status: Referred to the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery on 2/9/2022; reporting date was extended to May 9, 2022 pending concurrence.
	AN ACT EXPANDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STATE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICE OFFICERS
<u>S. 1620</u>	Sponsor(s): Moore, Gouveia
	Summary: Expands professional development opportunities for college and university police officers.
	Status: A virtual hearing was held on 11/1/2021.
<u>S. 1732</u>	AN ACT TO PROVIDE FAIR WORKING CONDITIONS FOR PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION ADJUNCT FACULTY
	Sponsor(s): Jahlen, Gobi, Timilty, Pacheco, Brady, DiDomenico, Barrett, O'Connor, Hinds, Comerford, Howard, Scanlon

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Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Rules, 2/28/2022.

NEW HAMPSHIRE GENERAL COURT

Current Status: The New Hampshire General Court is in session; it convened on January 5, 2022. The General Court is moving to return to in-person voting and has already held several events this year in person, which have taken place at alternate venues to allow for physical distancing.

Governor Sununu's February 17, 2022 State of the State Address.

In terms of education and workforce development, Governor Sununu shared that New Hampshire has the strongest economy and fastest population growth of any state in the Northeast. The Governor attributes this to his administration's emphasis on cutting taxes for individuals and businesses. Additionally, federal support has created \$600 million in education funding in the state. Moreover, New Hampshire is expanding its Educational Freedom Savings Accounts this year. The Governor also plans to expand broadband to tens of thousands more people this year.

	AN ACT RELATIVE TO LIMITED LIABILITY FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND BUSINESS
H.B. 255	Sponsor(s): Ladd, Smith, Aron, Shaw
<u> </u>	Summary: Relative to limited liability for institutions of higher education and business.
	Status: Laid on table, 11/16/2021.
	AN ACT REQUIRING STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEMS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PASS THE UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGATION SERVICES CIVICS NATURALIZATION TEST
<u>H.B. 319</u>	Sponsor(s): Moffett, Giuda, Shaw, Rouillard, Lang, Pearl, Hobson
	Summary: Requires university system and community college system students, as a requirement for graduation, to pass the 2020 version of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization test.
	Status: Vetoed by Governor Sununu on 2/23/2022.
H.B. 349	RELATIVE TO CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR

	SCHOOL NURSES
	Sponsor(s): Hill, Smith, McGuire, Ladd, Lang, Cordelli, Lekas
	Summary: This bill removes the requirement for school nurses to be certified by the state board of education.
	Status: Voted inexpedient to legislate, 1/5/2022.
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE RIGHT-TO-KNOW OMBUDSMAN AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFORE
	Sponsor(s): Smith, Weyler, Giuda, Hopper, Rosenwald, Ulery, Cushing, Langley, Sanborn
<u>HB. 481</u>	Summary: Establishes procedures to streamline the resolution of complaints, establishes the Office of the Right to Know ombudsman, establishes an alternative process to resolve right to know complaints, makes an appropriation.
	Status: Committee reported it ought to pass with amendment on 10/29/2021.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PROPAGATION OF DIVISIVE CONCEPTS
	Sponsor(s): Cordelli, Ammon, Osborne
H.B. 544	Summary: Defines and prohibits the dissemination of certain divisive concepts related to sex and race in state contracts, grants, and training programs.
	Status: Laid on table, 4/8/2021.
<u>H.B. 1218</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE MERGER OF GRANITE STATE COLLEGE WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
	Sponsor(s): Ladd, Moffett, Hobson, Cordelli, Shaw, Mullen, Umberger, D'Allesandro, Reagan, Ward, Gray, Kahn
	Summary: This bill establishes Granite State College (GSC) as a

	division within the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and would
	amend other relevant statutes to reflect attendant administrative and
	governance changes. The repeal of RSA 187-A:11, II-a, specifically,
	which establishes GSC as "a body corporate and politic," would be
	effective July 1, 2023, with the remainder of the act effective upon
	passage. The fiscal impact on University System of New Hampshire
	(System) operations is indeterminable as a number of workstreams are
	being addressed concurrently (e.g., online delivery, accreditation,
	facilities, programming, etc.). The System states increases to its
	operating expense to migrate and align GSC and UNH systems are
	expected in the short term, and savings and added revenue are expected
	in the long term with the consolidation of duplicative resources and
	programs and growth in online offerings once fully integrated. Some
	level of "full integration" is expected by FY 2024, when GSC will no
	longer offer degrees on its own.
	Status: Referred to Education; Senate Journal 5 on 3/1/2022.
	AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF NATIVE AMERICAN
	MASCOTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES OR
	UNIVERSITIES
	Sponsor(s): Cannon, Ellis, Cushing, Bartlett, Vail, Tucker, Kahn,
HD 1061	Watters
<u>H.B. 1261</u>	
	Summary: Prohibits the use of Native American mascots in public
	schools, colleges or universities.
	Status: Pending (House Education Committee). A public hearing was
	held on 1/18/2022.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO ELIGIBILITY FOR THE
	EDUCATION TAX CREDIT
	Sponsor(s): Cordelli, Piemonte, Hill, Lekas, Moffett, Hobson,
	McGuire, Osborne
<u>H.B. 1298</u>	
	Summary: Increases the income threshold to become eligible for the
	education tax credit from 300% of the federal poverty level to 500% of
	the federal poverty level.

	Status: Pending (House Education Committee). A public hearing was held on 1/13/2022.
H.B. 1313	AN ACT RELATIVE TO RIGHTS TO FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Ladd
	Summary: Adds public postsecondary educational institutions to the definition of public employer for the purpose of prohibiting discrimination in higher education.
	Status: Pending (House Education Committee). A public hearing was held on 1/11/2022.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS FOR CREDIT LEADING TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION
H.D. 1220	Sponsor(s): Ladd
H.B. 1329	Summary: This bill requires high schools to accept alternative programs for credit leading to graduation pursuant to rules adopted by the state board of education.
	Status: In the House Committee on Education; due out on 3/10/2022.
H.B. 1332	AN ACT EXCEPTING PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES FROM REQUIREMENTS UNDER MEDICAL FREEDOM IN IMMUNIZATIONS
	Sponsor(s): Schapiro, Welkowitz, Spang, Horrigan, Marsh, Woods, Meuse, Merchant, Smith, Kahn, Rosenwald
	Summary: Excepting public universities and colleges from requirements under medical freedom in immunizations.
	Status: Pending (House Education Committee). A public hearing was held on 2/2/2022.
<u>H.B. 1372</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER CERTIFICATION
	Sponsor(s): Janigian, Cordelli, Doucette, Litchfield

	Summary: This bill adds a requirement that educators applying for certification have completed a class on New Hampshire department of education administrative rules.
	Status: In the House Committee on Education; due out on 3/10/2022.
<u>H.B. 1661</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AGREEMENTS
	Sponsor(s): Ladd, Boehm, Kahn, Umberger, Cordelli, Reagan, Shaw, Hennessey, Lynn, Watters
	Summary: This bill requires sending district schools and career and technical education (CTE) centers to enter into an agreement to include scheduling, access, transportation, and credits for CTE students.
	Status: There will be a Division II work session on this bill on March 15, 2022.
S.B. 44	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NEW HAMPSHIRE WORKFORCE PATHWAY PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Kahn, Rosenwald, Ladd, D'Allesandro, Hennessey, Myler, Whitley, Soucy, Luneau, Prentiss, Sherman
	Summary: This bill establishes a workforce pathway program in the community college system of New Hampshire.
	Status: Adopted in the Senate, House laid on table, 1/6/2022. Next hearing on 4/21/2022.
S.B. 234	AN ACT REQUIRING STUDENT IDENTIFICATION CARDS TO INCLUDE THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
	Sponsor(s): Ward, Hennessey, Alexander, Hills
	Summary: This bill requires student identification cards for public schools and institutions of higher education include the telephone number for the suicide prevention lifeline.

	Status: Ought to pass with amendment as of 2/3/2022.
	SIGNED INTO LAW
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO STUDY NEW HAMPSHIRE TEACHER SHORTAGES AND RECRUITMENT INCENTIVES
S.B. 236	Sponsor(s): Kahn, Ward, Prentiss, Watters, Myler, Heath
	Summary: This bill establishes a committee to study New Hampshire teacher shortages and recruitment incentives.
	Status: Adopted on 2/3/2022.
S.B. 263	AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NEW HAMPSHIRE YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION COUNCIL
	Sponsor(s): Watters, Perkins Kwoka, Hennessey, Sherman, Kahn, Whitley, Prentiss, Soucy, Myler, Smith
	Summary: This bill establishes the New Hampshire youth environmental education and conservation council, its membership, and the duties of the council.
	Status: In the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; a hearing was held on 2/10/2022.
S.B. 276	AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGENERATIVE MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): D'Allesandro, Watters, Bradley
	Summary: This bill requires the business finance authority to include the house and senate finance committees in its reporting on the progress relative to the regenerative manufacturing workforce development program.
	Status: Ought to pass with amendment, 2/3/2022.

	AN ACT REPEALING THE LAW RELATIVE TO CERTAIN DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC WORKPLACES AND EDUCATION
S.B. 298	Sponsor(s): Watters, Rosenwald, Whitley, D'Allesandro, Sherman, Prentiss, Soucy, Kahn, Perkins Kwoka, Cavanaugh, Cushing, Espitia
	Summary: This bill repeals the law relative to certain discrimination in public workplaces and education.
	Status: Inexpedient to legislate, 2/24/2022.
	AN ACT RELATIVE TO NATIONAL GUARD EDUCATION BENEFITS
G.D. 260	Sponsor(s): Carson, Moffett, Bradley, Shaw, Watters, Baldasaro
S.B. 360	Summary: This bill allows for members of the New Hampshire national guard to transfer their national guard tuition waiver benefit to their spouses until July 1, 2027.
	Status: Ought to pass as of 2/16/2022.
	AN ACT ALLOWING THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM TO BE MUNICIPAL HOST ELECTRIC CUSTOMER GENERATORS
S.B. 370	Sponsor(s): Perkins Kwoka, Watters, Avard, Cavanaugh, Prentiss, Sherman, Rosenwald, Kahn, Soucy, Whitley, D'Allesandro, Smith, Somssich, Wall
	Summary: This bill amends the definition of municipal host to include the university of New Hampshire and community college systems.
	Status: The Energy and Natural Resources Committee will conduct an interim study, 2/24/2022.
<u>S.B. 421</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO DUAL AND CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER STUDENTS
	Sponsor(s): Watters, Reagan, D'Allesandro, Perkins Kwoka,

	Hennessey, Gray, Whitley, Soucy, Rosenwald, Ward, Carson, Sherman,
	Gannon, Cavanaugh, Prentiss, Cordelli, McGuire, Ladd
	Summary: This bill clarifies the time of payment and the participation by
	nonpublic schools in the dual and concurrent enrollment program of the
	community college system of New Hampshire.
	Status: Ought to pass as of 2/24/2022; refer to Finance Rule 4-5.
	AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CHILDCARE WORKFORCE
	FUND AND GRANT PROGRAM AND MAKING AN
	APPROPRIATION THEREFOR
	Sponsor(s): Whitley, Hennessey, Rosenwald, Soucy, Watters, Carson,
	Kahn, Cavanaugh, Sherman, Perkins Kwoka, Prentiss, D'Allesandro,
	Wallner, McWilliams, Rombeau
S.B. 446	
<u>5.B. 110</u>	Summary: This bill establishes a child care workforce fund to provide
	grants to eligible child care programs for child care workforce
	recruitment and retention bonuses and benefits. The bill makes an
	appropriation to the fund for the purpose of establishing and
	administering the grant program.
	Status: In the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services as of
	2/1/2022.

RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Current Status: The Rhode Island General Assembly convened on January 4, 2022. The legislature is operating in a hybrid in-person and remote format.

Governor McKee's January 18, 2022 State of the State Address.

In his State of the State Address, Governor McKee noted that Rhode Island received \$1.1 billion in federal stimulus funds in 2021, and will continue to invest those funds in 2022. On the topic of education, the Governor remarked that Rhode Island students are mostly back to in-person instruction. Additionally, the number of jobs in the state has increased in recent months, and certain fields like construction and manufacturing are above pre-pandemic levels.

The Governor noted that Rhode Island has seen the strongest pandemic recovery in the Northeast. Using funds from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, Rhode Island will introduce 100 projects, valued at \$2.1 billion, which will help generate jobs in the trades. The Governor's budget will invest \$430 million in constructing education facilities from pre-kindergarten through higher education. This includes funding for the University of Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay campus and Rhode Island College's Student Success Center. Additionally, Rhode Island will launch its first ever Higher Ed Academy, a statewide effort to provide access to education and training that leads to a good-paying job. This initiative, which will be run by the Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner, will support 1,000+ Rhode Islanders gain the skills necessary to obtain a credential or degree. The Governor also plans to dedicate funding to forgive student loan debt, especially for healthcare professionals.

On workforce development, the Governor pledges \$40 million for the Real Jobs Rhode Island program. He is also proposing a \$10 million Minority Business Support Initiative to increase minority business ownership in the state. Moreover, the Governor plans to dedicate additional grants to small businesses, especially in tourism, hospitality, and small farms. The Governor hopes to build the nation's first Smart Bay, in partnership with the University of Rhode Island, which will make the state a world leader in researching, developing and testing ocean technology; he also aims to bring wet lab space to Rhode Island to promote life sciences activities.

	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - THE MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
<u>H 5540</u>	Sponsor(s): Tobon, Baginski, Alzate, Edwards, Barros, Amore, Craven
	Summary: Establishes medical professional scholarship program within postsecondary education council with commission awarding \$5,000 for 4 years of college attendance to eligible applicants funded by \$25

	assessment fee on medical professionals seeking licensure.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 5/20/2021.
	RELATING TO EDUCATIONRHODE ISLAND PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP
	Sponsor(s): Chippendale, Filippi, Nardone, Place
<u>H 5605</u>	Summary: Provides that the students with disabilities shall be eligible to participate in the state's promise scholarship program and provided with reasonable accommodations to access the opportunities.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study, 4/7/2021.
	ACCESS TO ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES FOR
	ALL STUDENTS ACT
<u>H 6603</u> (<u>S 2279</u>)	Sponsor(s): Amore, J Lombardi, Potter, Alzate, Giraldo, Morales, Lawson, Cano, DiMario, Murray, Ciccone, Picard, Lombardo, Seveney, Quezada, Euer
	Summary: Establishes a process for CCRI, RIC and URI to accept for college credit an advanced placement subject test score of three (3) ("qualified") or better in an advanced placement course.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Education on 1/6/2022.
H 6673	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - COMPENSATION FOR STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS
	Sponsor(s): Solomon
	Summary: Expressly allows college athletes, while they are students, to personally profit from the use of their name, image, and likeness, and prohibits the NCAA from preventing these practices.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Education on 1/6/2022.

<u>H 7061</u>	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): McNamara, Potter, Casimiro, Baginski, Giraldo, S Lima, Noret
	Summary: Prohibits a college or university from withholding a student's academic transcript due to outstanding tuition fees.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 01/26/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION CURRICULUM
	Sponsor(s): J Lombardi, Hull, Morales
<u>H 7119</u>	Summary: Directs the council on elementary and secondary education to develop recommendations for a high school curriculum to prepare students for successful postsecondary education and careers in computer science.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 2/9/2022.
<u>H 7121</u>	RELATING TO EDUCATION - COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Perez, Vella-Wilkinson, Shanley, C Lima, Diaz, Corvese
	Summary: Prohibits discrimination in postsecondary education of students who are granted medical or religious vaccine exemptions by a sponsoring university or college.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 2/2/2022.
<u>H 7269</u>	AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS LICENSE PROCEDURE FOR SOCIAL WORKERS
	Sponsor(s): Caldwell, Craven, Carson, Speakman, Fogarty, Solomon, Filippi, Casimiro, Shanley, Alzate

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	Summary: Allows individuals who have received their masters of
	social work from an accredited college or university within the past two
	(2) years to practice within the field prior to obtaining a license.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 2/16/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION MAINTENANCE OF ORDER ON CAMPUS
	Sponsor(s): O'Brien, Craven, Noret, Corvese, Solomon, Costantino, C Lima, Azzinaro, Vella-Wilkinson, Hawkins
<u>H 7459</u>	Summary: Mandates arming campus police at public higher educational institutions and includes campus police in the definition of "law enforcement officer" for the purposes of the "Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights."
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Judiciary on 2/11/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS MECHANICAL TRADES
	Sponsor(s): Nardone, Quattrocchi
<u>H 7462</u>	Summary: Authorizes issuance of P.J.F. limited HVAC service person's license upon examination for work on or repair of electric wiring/equipment located on heating/AC systems.
	Status: Committee recommended measure be held for further study on 3/2/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION
	Sponsor(s): Speakman, Ajello, Morales, Carson, Cortvriend, Cassar
<u>H 7563</u>	Summary: Prohibits an educational institution or school district from accessing or using location data for tracking a student's institutional device or personal device, except in limited circumstances.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Innovation, Internet, & Technology on 2/18/2022.

	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION BILITERACY SEAL
<u>H 7607</u>	Sponsor(s): Morales, Kislak, Alzate, Giraldo, Ranglin-Vassell, McNamara, Biah, Felix, Kazarian, Caldwell
	Summary: Allows high school students receiving state Silver/Gold Seal of Biliteracy to earn 2 to 4 semesters of college credit toward minor/major in language at public university/community college if requested within 3 yrs. after high school graduation.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Education on 3/2/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES INSURANCE BENEFITS
	Sponsor(s): Hull, Speakman, J Lombardi, Morales, Slater, Fellela, Williams, Ranglin-Vassell, McLaughlin, Serpa
<u>H 7630</u>	Summary: Provides that adjunct faculty members at any state college or university who teach at least 50% of the hours regularly worked by full-time faculty in a semester would be eligible for the same medical benefits as other state employees.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Finance on 3/2/2022.
<u>H 7635</u>	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - RHODE ISLAND PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP
	Sponsor(s): Vella-Wilkinson, C Lima, Williams, Noret, Azzinaro, O'Brien
	Summary: Provides that a student who enrolls for the first semester at CCRI after the student completes basic training prior to becoming a military reservist is eligible for a promise scholarship.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Finance on 3/2/2022.
<u>H 7744</u>	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
	Sponsor(s): Fogarty, McEntee, Caldwell, Craven, Phillips, O'Brien

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	Summary: Provides that the URI Board of Trustees meeting
	requirement for a quorum is ten (10) voting members. The act further
	provides that a seventeen (17) member board be appointed by the
	governor with the advice and consent of the senate.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House State Government & Elections on 3/2/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO STATE AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENT- GOVERNOR'S CLEAN ENERGY WORKFORCE TRANSITION COMMISSION
	WORKFORCE TRANSPITION COMMISSION
<u>H 7755</u>	Sponsor(s): Donovan, Carson, Cortvriend, Speakman, Ruggiero, Williams, Alzate, Ranglin-Vassell, McEntee, Caldwell
	Summary: Creates the Governor's Clean Energy Workforce Transition Commission.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Finance on 3/2/2022.
	JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A SPECIAL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF RHODE ISLAND'S PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM
<u>H 7784</u> (<u>S 2442</u>)	Sponsor(s): McNamara, McLaughlin, Potter, Amore, DiPalma, Seveney, Gallo, Pearson, Cano, Paolino, Archambault, Acosta, Quezada, McCaffrey
	Summary: Creates a 10 member joint commission to study and make recommendations for efficient and effective governance of pre-k through sixteen public education system, and would report back to the Senate and House by March 1, 2023, and expire on July 1, 2023.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Education on 3/3/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION – PROPERTY SUBJECT TO TAXATION
<u>H 7813</u>	Sponsor(s): Morales, Kislak, Williams, Ranglin-Vassell, J Lombardi, Biah, Filippi, Diaz, Amore, Slater
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	Summary: Allows the host city or town to impose a two percent (2%)
	tax on the endowment of a private institution of higher education, to be used only for the host's public school district.
	Status: Introduced, referred to House Municipal Government & Housing on 3/3/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS
	Sponsor(s): Seveney, Cano, Pearson
<u>S 2043</u>	Summary: Directs the council on elementary and secondary education to implement an assessment and evaluation system that applies to both teachers and administrators and is aligned with the state's standards.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 1/25/2022.
	RHODE ISLAND EARLY EDUCATOR INVESTMENT ACT
	Sponsor(s): Cano, DiMario, Quezada, Euer, Murray, Lawson, Kallman, Anderson, Seveney, Pearson
<u>S 2235</u>	Summary: Requires the children's cabinet to develop a strategic plan to retain early childhood educators by creating a cross-departmental target wage scale of early educators and that of public school teaching staff or individuals with similar credentials.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Labor on 2/8/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION THE COLLEGE CRUSADE SCHOLARSHIP
<u>S 2280 (H 6677</u>)	Sponsor(s): Cano, Quezada, Gallo, Kallman, Acosta, Picard, Lawson, DiMario, Seveney, Tobon, Baginski, Giraldo, Edwards, Amore
	Summary: Provides that scholarships received directly from the College Crusade Scholarship Program would not be considered financial aid pursuant to the Rhode Island Promise Scholarships.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 2/15/2022.

	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION - HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUPILS
<u>S 2283</u>	Sponsor(s): Mack, DiMario, Calkin, Mendes, Valverde, F Lombardi, Sosnowski, Lawson, Anderson, Bell
	Summary: Requires feminine hygiene products be provided in all universities and colleges at no cost to students.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 2/15/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION
<u>S 2286</u>	Sponsor(s): Gallo, Valverde, Pearson, Goodwin, Lombardo
S 22200	Summary: Establishes a group to develop a tuition formula for schools sending students to technical programs.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 2/15/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAYS TO EARNING A BACHELOR'S DEGREE ACT
	Sponsor(s): Gallo, Lombardo, Valverde, Pearson, Goodwin
<u>S 2287</u>	Summary: Creates the Apprenticeship Pathways to Earning a Bachelor's Degree Act, to enable an individual to earn a bachelor's degree at public higher education institutions throughout the state by earning credits through apprenticeships.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 2/15/2022.
	RHODE ISLAND HOPE SCHOLARSHIP ACT
<u>S 2290</u> (<u>H 7636</u>)	Sponsor(s): Pearson, Gallo, Cano, Goodwin, Murray, Valverde, DiMario, Amore, Ranglin-Vassell, Speakman, Ajello, Henries, Biah, O'Brien, Morales
	Summary: Establishes the Rhode Island hope scholarship act to provide up to the cost of two (2) years of tuition costs and mandatory fees for eligible students in hopes to increase the numbers for enrollment

	and graduation.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 2/15/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO TAXATION - STAY INVESTED IN RI WAVEMAKER FELLOWSHIP
	Sponsor(s): Pearson, Gallo, Euer, Cano, Valverde, Mack, DiMario, Acosta
<u>S 2308</u>	Summary: Repeals the provisions of the Stay Invested in RI Wavemaker Fellowship, and establish the Stay Invested in RI Tax Credit to provide eligible taxpayers with a tax credit for educational loan repayment expenses.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Finance on 2/15/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION THE PAUL W. CROWLEY RHODE ISLAND STUDENT INVESTMENT INITIATIVE
	Sponsor(s): Pearson, Gallo, Cano, Acosta, Murray
<u>S 2309</u>	Summary: Provides for a one-time appropriation of \$1,000,000 and an annual appropriation thereafter to Rhode Island College providing to teachers at no costs to them certification and educational programs who teach students who don't speak English.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Finance on 2/15/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES THE RHODE ISLAND WORKS PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Murray, Quezada, Anderson, Euer, Cano, Miller, Acosta, DiPalma, Seveney, Kallman
<u>S 2316</u>	Summary: Extends the life-time limit for RI works benefits to 60 months; increases the monthly cash benefit to 50% of the federal poverty level; increases post-secondary program participation by an additional 12 months.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Finance on 2/15/2022.

	AN ACT RELATING TO EDUCATION ADULT EDUCATION
<u>S 2437 (H 7636)</u>	Sponsor(s): Seveney, DiPalma, Valverde, Lombardo, Miller, Kallman, Cortvriend, McGaw, Alzate, Carson, Speakman, Caldwell, Diaz, Henries, Amore, Potter
	Summary: Modernizes, expands access and provides additional funds to adult education programs in the state, creates a strategic plan for adult education, establish learning, intake and assessment centers.
	Status: Introduced, referred to Senate Education on 3/1/2022.

VERMONT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Current Status: The Vermont General Assembly convened on January 6, 2022. It is operating in a hybrid remote and in-person environment.

Governor Scott's January 5, 2022 State of the State Address.

In his State of the State Address, Governor Scott discussed how his administration plans to address Vermont's shrinking workforce. All 14 counties in Vermont have seen their working-age population shrink. Six of them have shrunk by 15% or more since their peak, and Vermont has lost 30,000 members of its workforce since 2010. School-aged enrollment has declined as well, and costs have remained high. The Governor will be proposing workforce-related legislation this year, and will not approve legislation that worsens workforce problems. Some of these include internship, returnship, and apprenticeship programs, which have been successful so far. The Department of Labor will assist employers in filling and managing internships, and will invest more to cover interns' wages.

The Governor emphasized that the administration will focus more on encouraging CTE and promoting training opportunities, and removing the stigma around entering a trade field. Additionally, the Agency of Education and Department of Mental Health are dedicating \$285 million towards addressing social, emotional, and learning gaps in K-12 schools. The Governor wants to propose a comprehensive relocation package to appeal to and reach people who may be interested in moving to Vermont, including young adults who moved away after graduation.

Governor Scott's January 18, 2022 State of the Budget Address.

In his State of the Budget address, Governor Scott discussed the complexity of the state's \$7.7 billion budget for the 2023 fiscal year. He outlines that \$2 billion remain in the General Fund (with a surplus of \$234 million), \$326 million in the Transportation Fund, \$1.9 billion in the Education Fund (with a surplus of \$90 million), as well as hundreds of millions in one-time federal funding. Vermont received \$1 billion last year in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, and the Governor asked for the funds to be split into five major initiatives: broadband/cell service, housing, climate change mitigation, water/sewer/stormwater infrastructure, and economic recovery. Last year, legislators funded half of Governor's proposal, and he's asking them to follow through on his initiative this year.

Vermont will have resources left over after paying the essentials this year, and the Governor suggests using these to address workforce shortages. He mentions once more that VT has lost 24,000 workers since Feb. 2020 and has 23,000 open jobs currently, which is 7% of the pre-pandemic economy. On higher education, the Governor reports they will be adding \$1 million to the State's internship program and \$1 million to VSAC's Advancement Grants, which help adults enroll in training programs. The Governor also plans to invest \$2.7 million to pilot a unified approach to connecting employers with CTE students in six cities, which will be scaled statewide if it is successful. Additionally, \$10 million will reduce education costs for those working towards jobs in the trades,

such as CDL drivers, plumbers and welders, as well as nurses. Moreover, the Governor aims to use half a million dollars to create CTE courses around electric aviation and electric vehicles.

On retaining workers, the Governor is dedicating \$8.5 million to Vermont's Stay to Stay program, which provides incentives for relocation and remote work in Vermont, to replenish the aging workforce. For the first time in 14 years, he is asking to increase the University of Vermont's base budget by \$10 million.

The Governor also wants to increase the 802 Opportunity initiative, which provides free community college for low-income Vermonters, by \$1.5 million in order to increase eligibility for the program. Additionally, the Governor aims to create a \$20 million short-term loan initiative modeled after the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program for businesses and non-profits without enough capital due to the pandemic.

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	SIGNED INTO LAW	
	AN ACT RELATING TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS	
H. 122 (Act 52)	Sponsor(s): Gannon, LaClair	
	Summary: A Vermont Higher Education Endowment Trust Fund is	
	established in the Office of the State Treasurer.	
	Status: The Governor signed into law on 6/3/2021.	
	AN ACT RELATING TO COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WORKFORCE REVITALIZATION	
	Sponsor(s): Coffey, Burke, James, Jerome, Killacky, Kimbell, Lefebvre, White	
<u>H. 159</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to create a Better Places Program to support projects that create, activate, or revitalize communities and public spaces.	
	Status: Passed in the House on 3/30/2021; referred to Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.	
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A	
	PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP WITH ADVANCE VERMONT TO INCREASE POSTSECONDARY	
<u>H. 377</u>	ATTAINMENT IN VERMONT	
	Sponsor(s): James, Austin, Brady, Jerome	

	Summary: In order to further the State's goal that 70 percent of working-age Vermonters hold a credential of value by 2025, this bill proposes to create a public-private partnership with Advance Vermont to increase postsecondary attainment in Vermont.
	Status: Bill was committed to the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development on 2/17/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING STRATEGIC GOALS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
H. 456	Sponsor(s): Fagan, James
	Summary: This bill proposes to establish 8 strategic goals and reporting requirements for the Vermont State Colleges.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Education, 2/25/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE MEDICAL REVIEW PROCESS IN THE REACH UP PROGRAM AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY
	Sponsor(s): Pugh
<u>H. 464</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to: (1) remove the medical review process in the Reach Up program; and (2) enable both parents in a qualifying two-parent family to participate in the Postsecondary Education Program.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Human Services on 1/7/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A REMOTE LEARNING PILOT PROGRAM FOR CTE STUDENTS
<u>H. 468</u>	Sponsor(s): James, Kimbell
	Summary: This bill proposes to establish a remote learning pilot program where a student enrolled in a CTE program could complete

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	the student's non-CTE coursework through a partnership with the Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC) under which: (1) the student would remain enrolled in the student's sending high school but would not attend classes at that high school; (2) the sending high school would continue to pay tuition to the CTE center for that student as under current law; (3) the sending high school would be responsible for administrative paperwork associated with the student's VTVLC and CTE participation; and (4) the sending high school would continue to count the student for enrollment and average daily membership purposes.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Education, 1/7/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING THE VERMONT NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Fagan
<u>H. 472</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to create the Vermont Nursing Scholarship Program for nursing students who commit to working as a nurse in Vermont for at least one year for each year of scholarship awarded. The Program would replace an existing nursing loan and loan repayment program. The bill would also appropriate \$1,000,000.00 in fiscal year 2023 for scholarships.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Health Care, 1/7/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO POTENTIAL NEW MODELS OF
	CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN VERMONT
<u>H. 483</u>	Sponsor(s): James, Kimbell, Dickinson, Toof
	Summary: This bill proposes that the Agency of Education identify and propose potential new models of funding and governance structures to improve the quality, duration, and access to career technical education in Vermont.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Education 1/7/2022. AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING THE VERMON NURSING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Sponsor(s): Fagan Summary: This bill proposes to create the Vermont Nursing Scholarship Program for nursing students who commit to working a nurse in Vermont for at least one year for each year of scholarship awarded. The Program would replace an existing nursing loan and be repayment program. The bill would also appropriate \$1,000,000.00 fiscal year 2023 for scholarships. Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Health Care, 1/7/2022. AN ACT RELATING TO POTENTIAL NEW MODELS OF FUNDING AND GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY, DURATION, AND ACCESS TO CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN VERMONT Sponsor(s): James, Kimbell, Dickinson, Toof Summary: This bill proposes that the Agency of Education identify and propose potential new models of funding and governance structures to improve the quality, duration, and access to career

	Status: Referred to Committee on Appropriations per Rule 35(a), 2/22/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE VERMONT NATIONAL GUARD TUITION BENEFIT PROGRAM
	Sponsor(s): Fagan
<u>H. 517</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to extend the Vermont National Guard Tuition Benefit Program to a member seeking a master's degree or a second baccalaureate degree, provided that the member satisfies eligibility criteria.
	Status: Action Calendar: Favorable (House), 3/8/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE CREATION OF THE PIPELINES AND PATHWAYS GRANT PROGRAM
H. 582	Sponsor(s): Sibilia
	Summary: This bill proposes to create the Pipelines and Pathways Grant Program that would create a 50 percent match grant to partially fund career preparation programs on a regional level. The grant would be used to connect regional career and technical centers, school districts providing high school education, regional development corporations, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, and other regional workforce resources, providing a bridge from the educational system to the regional economy and regional workforce programs.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Education, 1/12/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS' OR PUBLIC POSTSECONDARY SCHOOLS' MASCOTS, NICKNAMES, LOGOS, LETTERHEAD AND TEAM NAMES
<u>H. 641</u>	Sponsor(s): Jerome, Vykovsky, Surprenant, Small, Mulvaney-Stanak, Burrows, Bos-Lun, Bluemle, Morris, Colston, White, Nicoll, Killacky, Masland, Elder, Dolan, Cordes, Coffey, Anthony, Colburn, Cina, Wood, Troiano, Yantachka, Christie, Mrowicki
	Summary: This bill proposes to prohibit a public school or public

	postsecondary school from having or adopting a name, symbol, or
	image that depicts or refers to a racial or ethnic group, individual,
	custom, or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo,
	letterhead, or team name of the school.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Education, 1/14/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE CREATION OF A
	SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND PILOT PROJECT FOR
	THE PRESERVATION OF THE ABENAKI LANGUAGE
	Sponsor(s): Cina, Brumsted, Colburn, Cordes, Dolan, Elder,
	Houghton, Masland, McCullough, Notte, Ode, Rachelson, Sims,
	Small, Surprenant, Toleno, Vyhovsky
<u>H. 645</u>	Summary: : This bill proposes to create a scholarship program for people to learn the Abenaki language in existing postsecondary
	educational programs. It also proposes to create a pilot project to
	promote the development and expansion of community-based,
	year-round Abenaki language resources by providing grants to
	nonprofit organizations that currently offer Abenaki language courses.
	Status: Read First Time and referred to the Committee on Education, 1/14/2022.
	SIGNED INTO LAW
	AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYEE INCENTIVES,
	TECHNICAL EDUCATION, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
	INSURANCE
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S. 62 (Act 51)	Sponsor(s): Sirotkin, Balint, Clarkson, Hooker, Lyons
	Summary: This bill proposes to create a New Vermont Employee
	Incentive Program.
	Status: Signed by the Governor on 6/1/2021.
	AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS' TEAM
<u>S. 139</u>	MASCOTS
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	Sponsor(s): McCormack
	Summary: This bill proposes to prohibit a public school from having or adopting a name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to a racial or ethnic group, individual, custom, or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, or team name of the school.
	Status: Favorable report with recommendation of amendment by Committee on Education, 3/8/2022.
<u>S. 154</u>	AN ACT RELATED TO CANNABIS EXCISE TAX REVENUE AND THE VERMONT STATE COLLEGES
	Sponsor(s): Baruth, Balint, Benning, Bray, Lyons, Pollina
	Summary: This bill proposes to direct 60 percent of the revenue from the cannabis excise tax to the Vermont State Colleges.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Finance, 1/4/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS
	Sponsor(s): Lyons
<u>S. 165</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to direct the Office of Professional Regulation, in coordination with institutions of higher education, to examine opportunities for certain mental health and substance use disorder treatment professionals to count credits for educational programming toward both continuing education requirements and course requirements for advanced degrees. It would also require the Agency of Human Services to catalog the educational programs and opportunities that it offers to its 15 employees.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Health and Welfare, 1/4/2022.
<u>S. 196</u>	AN ACT RELATING TO RELOCATION ASSISTANCE, TUITION ASSISTANCE AND LOAN REPAYMENT FOR DENTAL PROFESSIONALS

	Sponsor(s): Hooker, Chittenden, Collamore, Cummings, Hardy, Lyons, Pollina, Hinsdale, Starr, Tenzenini
	Summary: This bill proposes to: (1) provide relocation assistance to dental hygienists; (2) provide tuition assistance to prospective dental hygienists and certificate-level dental assistants; and (3) provide loan repayment assistance to dental hygienists and certificate-level 11 dental assistants employed in a Vermont dental practice.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Health and Welfare, 1/5/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO CREATING THE VERMONT TEACHING CAREERS STUDY COMMITTEE
	Sponsor(s): Campion
<u>S. 211</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to create the Vermont Teaching Careers Study Committee to study and make recommendations on how to increase interest in teaching in Vermont elementary and secondary schools.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Education, 1/7/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE U.S. AND VERMONT CONSTITUTIONS IN THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR TUITION AND IN THE DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM Sponsor(s): Campion
<u>S. 219</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to: (1) ensure compliance with the U.S. and Vermont Constitutions by clarifying that a school district is authorized to pay public tuition to a qualified school or program, regardless of its religious status or affiliation, if the school or program has adequate safeguards to ensure that none of the tuition for which payment is requested has been or will be used to support religious instruction or worship or the propagation of religious views; (2) prohibit a school district from paying public tuition to a qualified school or program, regardless of religious status or affiliation, unless the school

	or program complies with federal and State antidiscrimination laws applicable to public schools; and (3) clarify under what circumstances a school district shall make dual enrollment available to students who attend a school with a religious mission.
	Status: Favorable report with recommendation of amendment by Committee on Education, 3/8/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE VERMONT CLIMATE CORPS
	Sponsor(s): Hinsdale, Hardy, Hooker, Perchlik, Pollina
<u>S. 225</u>	Summary: This bill proposes to create the Vermont Climate Corps to implement a work program that would provide employment doing climate resilience and adaptation work.
	Status: Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Energy, 1/11/2022.
	AN ACT RELATING TO THE GOVERNANCE OF VERMONT STATE COLLEGES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
	Sponsor(s): Hooker, Pollina, Hinsdale, Terenzini, Bluemle, Stebbins, Anthony, Colburn, Mulvaney-Stanak, Rachelson
S. 248 (H 643)	Summary: This bill proposes to increase the 8 number of student trustee members and add faculty and staff trustee members 9 to the Boards of Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation and the 10 University of Vermont and State Agricultural College. It also proposes to 11 introduce a two-term limit to both Boards.
	Status: Senate 1/13/2022 - Read 1st time & referred to Committee on Education.